

**James Jackson to Andrew Jackson, December 16, 1814,  
from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by  
John Spencer Bassett.**

Nashville, December 16, 1814.

*Dear Genl.* , I wrote you some time since to Mobile but apprehend from your movement to New Orleans my letter did not reach mobile in time (and I see from Mrs. Jacksons letter, that you had not for a length of time recd. any letters from Mr. Hutchings or myself which is most unaccountable) The principal business of my last letter was informing you of young Mr. Sims having applied to know if I was authorised to sell your Land. I replied I had been authoris'd to sell, he then requested a particular discription of the Land and the price which with the approbation of Mrs. Jackson, have given him, price twenty dollars per Acre, which has been forwarded to Philada. and young Sims seemed to think the proposal would be accepted of and the greater part of the purchase money paid down. Genl. Smith has agree'd that the part belonging to the heirs of Saml. Donaldson may be sold at that price, but that you must be responsible for the title. In my last letter to Mobile I wrote fully on this subject and requested you reply as soon as possible. I proposed to Sims, that he should have any part of the Negroes, Stock etc. at a fair price in the event of purchaseing the Land.

I would have taken up your Note for two thousand dollars, that became due about 12 days since (having about that amt. of yours in my hands) but took the liberty of renewing it for 30 days in consequence of payments to the Branch Bank on 10th Inst. at the expiration of which time will positively take it out of Bank.

I have not yet been able to get an overseer for your farm, at least such an one as would please me. fields will not do and I fear you will be a Negro out of Pocket. Aaron came

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down about Nashville with two of Levin Donaldson's Negroes and wishing to ride Home, stoped at a Mr. Odens stable, a short distance in this side mill Creek, he was discovered. Oden, a White man and his Negro fellow, got to the stable while Aaron was in it, the Negro fellow was sent in to take him and Oden stood at the Door with his gun ordering Aaron to give up or would shute him, however Aaron dodged the negro fellow and dashed to get out at the Door, which there was Bars across. Oden caught him and the[y] scuffel'd for about 20 yards when Oden found Aaron cuting him with a knife. he then let him go and fired at him. his gun was loaded with shot, he got the contents in his Back and Doctor may is fearful he'll not recover. It was quite dark when Aaron was shot. The opinion of those who heared the sircumstances that Oden was justifyable. Colonel Hays and myself have chartered a 30 Ton Keal Boat for Mrs. Jackson and Mrs. Butler, the owner who steers the boat is a [riv]er man. he finds his own hands. We give him four hundred and 20 dollars to New Orleans. It will cost about 100 more than a flat boat and hands, but the Keal will go down much quicker and the[y] will get off much sooner than to wait for the building of a flat. the Boat will be nearly Loaded, that is, Harman Hays who goes with the Ladies will have the Load made up of Corn from your House and Mr. Butler, or so much of a Load as will not have any risk on the river. I'll write again shortly. truly yours

[P.S.] Mrs. J expects to set off in 10 days. I was at your House day before yestorday. Andrew was unwell but hope he'll recover by the time Mrs. J is ready. your negroes stock etc. etc. in the event of selling your Land would all, except the Horses bring a full price at twelve months credit. if this sale goes into effect, consider it would be much better than the sale you had in contemplation. write me soon and fully on the subject. The farm must go on this year, I suppose, in any event and any thing I can do for that purpose shall be done.

Give directions about the disposal of Truxton next year. had he not better go to Madison Count [y] M. T.